technology, such as advance outfitting, modular construction etc., by the shipyards.

(ii) Augmentation of production facilities to optimise capacity utilisation.

(iii) More effective production planning and control system.

(iv) Improving quality control system in shipyards.

(v) Diversification into ship-repair and other profitable activities.

Construction of Cargo Berth at Kandla Port

2638. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct the seventh cargo berth at Kandia Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). A proposal for construction of seventh cargo berth at Kandia Port had been sanctioned by Government on 23.6.88 at an estimated cost of Rs.29.80 crores which includes the following:-

(i) Construction of Quay and Transit areas with pile foundation;

(ii) Development of Open Stacking Groud with ground treatment with sand drains and preloading;

(iii) Construction of a single storied warehouse (container freight station) with pile foundation;

(iv) Capital dredging;

(v) Other works like development of back are, pipe-lines, fencing, electrification, miscellaneous buildings etc.

The construction work which started in 1988 is still continuing.

[*English*]

NRI Investments

2639. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total Non-resident Indian investments in India as on May 31, 1991 and November 30, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): The total NRI investment in India is given below:-

Date (As on)	Amount
31.5.91	Rs. 2094 crores
31.10.91	Rs.2173 crores

Reduction in Development Aid by Germany

2640. SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Germany has decided to reduce the development aid to India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The German Government have indicated that while the budget for development assistance for 1992 was not yet finalised, commitments could probably be somewhat reduced due to new responsibilities undertaken by Germany and consequent budgetary constraints.

Foreign Currence Preshipment Credit to Exporters

2641. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has allowed the Export-Import Bank of India to provide foreign currency Preshipment Credit to exporters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India has allowed to operate a scheme under which Indian exporters can avail of Preshipment Credit in foreign currencies to finance cost of imported inputs for manufacture of export products. Under the scheme, EXIM Bank of India will obtain short-term lines of credit in foreign currencies from overseas lenders. The foreign currency funds so raised will be made available to Banks authorised to deal in foreign exchange for onward lending to their exporter customers as pre-shipment credit. The facility of Preshipment credit in foreign currencies will be available to the following categories of exporters, subject to their having a satisfactory track record:-

(a) Export Houses/Trading Houses with Annual export turnover exceeding Rs. 10 crores.

(b) Manufacturing units with minimum export orientation of 25% of production or export turnover of Rs.5 crores, whichever is lower.

The applicable rate of interest on credit to the exporters will be 2% over and above the interest rate at which funds are raised by the EXIM Bank; exporters may also have to pay management fee, commitment fee, etc., if applicable. Repayment of the pre-shipment credit will be made out of sale proceeds of export shipments in respect of which the facility is availed of by the exporter.

Balance of Payments Position

2642. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO:
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign exchange reserves position has improved since June 1, 1991;

(b) if so, the balance of payments (foreign exchange reserves) position as to June 1, 1991 and as on date;

(c) the break up of the increase in foreign exchange reserves by cut in imports, export promotion, NRI remittances and foreign loans;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to maintain the present balance of payments position; and

(e) the reasons for fall in exchange rate of rupee in relation to the Pound Sterling inspite of increase in foreign exchange reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-